

degenerate variant thereof, which encodes a receptor recognition factor, or a fragment thereof, that possesses a molecular weight of about 113 kD and an amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 1 (SEQ ID NO:2); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding the 113 kD receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 1 (SEQ ID NO:1). In another embodiment, the receptor recognition factor has a molecular weight of about 91 kD and the amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 2 (SEQ ID NO:4) or FIGURE 13 (SEQ ID NO:8); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding the 91 kD receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 2 (SEQ ID NO:3) or FIGURE 13 (SEQ ID NO:7). In yet a further embodiment, the receptor recognition factor has a molecular weight of about 84 kD and the amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 3 (SEQ ID NO:6); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding the 84 kD receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 3 (SEQ ID NO:5). In yet another embodiment, the receptor recognition factor has an amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 14 (SEQ ID NO:10); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding such receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 14 (SEQ ID NO:9). In still another embodiment, the receptor recognition factor has an amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 15 (SEQ ID NO:12); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding such receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 15 (SEQ ID NO:11). -

Please replace the paragraph that bridges Page 37 to Page 38 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- As stated above, the present invention also relates to a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, or a degenerate variant thereof, which encodes a receptor recognition factor, or a fragment thereof, that possesses a molecular weight of about 113 kD and an amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 1 (SEQ ID NO:2); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in

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particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding the 113 kD receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 1 (SEQ ID NO:1). In another embodiment, the receptor recognition factor has a molecular weight of about 91 kD and the amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 2 (SEQ ID NO:4) or FIGURE 13 (SEQ ID NO:8); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding the 91 kD receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 2 (SEQ ID NO:3) or FIGURE 13 (SEQ ID NO:7). In yet a further embodiment, the receptor recognition factor has a molecular weight of about 84 kD and the amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 3 (SEQ ID NO:6); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding the 84 kD receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 3 (SEQ ID NO:5). In yet another embodiment, the receptor recognition factor has an amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 14 (SEQ ID NO:10); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding such receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 14 (SEQ ID NO:9). In still another embodiment, the receptor recognition factor has an amino acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 15 (SEQ ID NO:12); preferably a nucleic acid molecule, in particular a recombinant DNA molecule or cloned gene, encoding such receptor recognition factor has a nucleotide sequence or is complementary to a DNA sequence shown in FIGURE 15 (SEQ ID NO:11). - -

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 69-96 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) An isolated receptor recognition factor (RRF), Stat3, having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:12.

Please add the following new claims.